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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Professor Geo. F. Atkinson, - Botanist.
 Professor W. W. Rowlee, Plant Histologist.
 B. M. Duggar, Ph.D., Cryptogamic Botanist.

Ithaca, N. Y.,

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Bingham. 1-1-99.

Mrs. M. Duggar Urbana Ill.

Dear Sir, Did you write to Mr. Ayers Mr. Scott
 and Mr. Bastias in regard to the Ut. stamps bought
 from Misses Storrs and Mrs. Men & Mr. Men. If so
 did you state any particular number? How many
 did you tell them? To whom else did you write
 and what did you say about them? It is im-
 portant to your friends that I know these things.
 you will greatly oblige me

Very respectfully,

2210 Highland Ave. Bingham.
 Mrs. John White.

I am the mother of Mr. Robt. L. Nelson.

Please tell me just what you wrote to Mr. Ayers & Mr.
 Scott. you will oblige me so much by giving me
 the addresses of some of those rich collectors that you
 wrote about, particularly the rich Eastern collector
 who would "probably" make an offer for the whole num-
 ber of stamps. I will thank you so much.

Mrs. John White.

Copy of letter from
Mrs John White

Rec'd. Jan 28-99



10? he got it by the turn of a die

1. Do not pick up a quarrel.
2. What is his thanks?
3. The regiment stood all day long under arms.
4. That is a good likeness of you.
5. It was all the same to me.
6. He was my father's bosom friend.
7. Do not mock, my boys.
8. There is many a good point in him.
9. ~~Never~~ when every body wishes to be independent.

We are no better fixed with servants yet, only
 I saw the cook on the 1st.
 the girl I had churning has
 deserted me & I have to do it
 myself, must stop now &
 get in some ships before
 the snow comes. Now
 Father has been out all
 day, with much love
 You devoted
 Mother

January 4th 1899.

Your letter was gladly received this morning, I felt
 anxious to hear how your cold terminated, feared the trip to N. &
 would lay you up. I am truly glad you came off with only a little
 attack of bronchitis & that you are taking care of yourself. I suppose
 by this time you have quite recovered & have enjoyed some long talks
 with Mrs. Benton. I was glad he came to see us before he left.
 We too had quite cold weather New Year, but of course nothing like
 what you had. Linnie mentioned how cold it was in Mobile, today
 is quite a contrast to Sunday, I am writing in the chamber without
 a fire, had one this morning but it has died out. The wind is in
 the east & if we have rain may expect cold weather again.
 I am glad you enjoyed your trip & saw some thing of Gertrude. I
 know she was pleased to have you. Do you think she is making
 any thing?

We are having the quietest time now you can imagine, only
 your Father & myself at home. Bob has bought out the Folds
 & Wave was called into service to help take stock & take care of the
 goods. when home Sunday he said he might take the place as
 clerk for Bob. I suppose it is better than doing nothing but I would

like him to have more improving companions than those found at
Gallens. We do not know who will take the Post Office, Mrs Lewis
Foldes had it, we only hope it will not fall into Bob's hands.
It is probable Mrs Bob Foldes will buy out Mr Henry at Clow
Down, Mrs Lewis Foldes wants to go to some large town, Hermann sent
us cards to his marriage a few days ago, to a young lady in Montgomery.
Yesterday evening I rode in the cart with your Father to Mr Charles
Collins', the visit was intended for Lee & the baby but they left
two days ago for their home in Ga, while there I heard a letter
read from Mrs Welch telling of an accident to Calhoun Allen, in
going down the steps, covered with sleet, he slipped & fell, broke
both bones in his leg just above the ankle, it was at his own
house & Mrs Welch & Willie Robinson were there to help him.
They all live together, Willie keeps books for Mr Allen. Lizzie lives
in as they are fortunate. Mr Allen's broken leg reminds me of Mr
Lindie's horse, he has been in Fanned also some time playing the
devoted to Mary, he was riding out with John Henry, the horses
ran away threw him out & broke his leg, John escaped with some
bruises.

We had some sad news from Birmingham this morning Juliette
Whelan died last night, she had been sick about 10 days, the
D^r pronounced her trouble appendicitis, took her to the Catholic
Infirmary & she was operated on, & of course died, nearly all do. I
don't believe in that treatment it can be cured without it & if

JAN 4, '99

it could not I had rather die a natural death than be killed that way, for it is killing after all. Reuben but for the patience & perseverance of your Father might have died the same way. We had a very satisfactory letter from Lewis this morning, his extended term at the Marine Hospital has expired & there is no need of another emergency appointment so he decided to take board at the city hospital until he could stand his examination which will be in about three weeks, he will then make us a visit & decide upon his plans, writes as to he will locate in Jacksonville, I certainly feel relieved that he has given up standing an examination for the M. H. Service. I can't help feeling that Lewis will have to be our stay in old age, none of the others are so situated that they can be, you so far away, Fred with so many to see after & Reuben & Waver with no homes of their own, neither likely to leave for some time to come. I have not seen Reuben since the Tuesday after 4 ones. Uncle Waver was here a day or two ago, may be called to Mobile next week as witnesses in Mrs. Homeyay's case, Mrs. H. escaped jail last winter by some little technicalities, the case is to be tried over again. We had a letter from Fanny Sprague thanking us for a turkey sent them for New Year's dinner, she is a curiosity, "a rare bird" in present phraseology, the letter was

Blossoms separate from
January 4th, 1899 letter



Amherst, Ala.

Jan. 5/1877.

Dear Ben,

Your letters came this morning. The children were greatly pleased. Frances letter was a surprise to her and I wish you could have seen her countenance; it was fairly a glow with with joy.

It was too bad that you should have had bronchitis

while in New York. I thank
you for looking up the
coin dealers. We would have
sent the coins to you but
feared they might be some
burden to you while on
your trip.

The pictures and books were
highly appreciated. Margaret
is very proud of her bird
pictures, and Frederic and
Frances enjoy the fairy tales

45/99

in their looks. I belong to
the "Thursday club," composed
of twenty five women ladies
who are engaged this year
in the study of art. Both
The Madonna and Child. and
the Concert Musical had been
discussed and exhibited during
the past few weeks, so I was
prepared to appreciate your
presents to Fred and myself.
It was very kind of you
to remember us all at
Christmas. We had a

very happy time. We had
planned a tree for about-
fifty children, but whooping
cough appeared here just a
few days before Christmas
and Dr Drake advised no
Christmas tree. The Thacks
have four children with
whooping cough and both
Prof. Thack and his wife are
about worn out. I suppose
you know they have a boy
just the age of Ambrose.
But to return to our Christmas.

1/5/99

We had a very pretty tree
in the sitting room (the
room we used for dining
room when you were here).
It was decorated with
cotton to represent snow and
numerous toys, dolls etc.
for children and also
presents for the servants and
grown folks. Fred makes
a very lively and natural
Santa Claus arrayed in white
cotton wig and whiskers, red
dressing gown, pillow, bells.

from, etc. He makes many
lively remarks as he cuts
down the presents. Margaret
did not know him at all.
Even Frances was puzzled as
to his identity. It does ones
heart good to see a house
full of children at Christmas
time. I wish you could
have peeped in on the ~~low~~
joyfull scene as the little
ones waited for their presents.
How their little faces shone,
their eyes danced with
pleasure and their feet too,

4/5/99

part of the time. They hung
up their stockings too and also
had a Christmas hunt. Even
Ambrose entered into the
general pleasure and it is
quite remarkable to hear
him blow the horn some-
times go on him. He knows
which end to put in his
mouth and can make a
loud noise with it.

Ambrose was quite gay during
Christmas week. Mrs. Tolson,
daughter of Admiral Semmes of
Confederate fame visited here

1/5/99

during the holidays and
 numerous delightful entertainments
 were given to her. Breakfast and
 reception at Mrs. Swartzel, ~~and~~
 lunch at Mrs. Mills and
 reception at Mrs. McKisich.
 Dr. & Mrs. Anderson also gave
 a very delightful entertainment
 during the week but as
 Mrs. Duggan was away we
 did not attend. I missed
 two other entertainments
 also on account of headache,
 yet felt that we were quite
 gay during the holidays.

Last Tuesday night evening
I had dined at the conversation
club on Tennyson's Princess.
Fred leads soon on S. Weir
Mitchell whose novel we
are now reading together
with considerable pleasure.
Leit March a very ~~short~~
bad month in which to
cross the ocean? I believe it
is there you expect to sail.
P. of Baker got a leave of absence
and sailed a short while ago
for South America. It seems
that the man he had

1/5/99

made a contract with J. J. J. J. J.
to fulfill it, as I hear that
he is back in Wisconsin at
his father's home. I do not know
whether he will return to Auburn
or not.

Prof. Mull lectures on Italian
artists at the college in a few
weeks and is to give fifty
slides of their finest productions.

Professor and Mrs. Tracy have just
been here on a fine or six
weeks visit to the Earls. Did
you know that the college had
built a pretty house for
Prof. Earls in the horticultural

grounds? Do they are our
neighbours now

Mr Duggan is very much
interested in his farm, thinks
it a good investment. He has
wanted a farm near Montgomery
for so many years that I am
certainly glad he has gotten
it at last.

Did you see the notice of an
out-break of meningitis at the
Miss. Agr. College? and the
subsequent scattering of the students?

Well I believe I have written
you all the news I can
think of, so will close.

4/5/99

I hope you can make us
a good visit when you come
back from Germany and
become acquainted with
your nees and nephews who
are fast growing into interesting
boys and girls. They as well
as Fred and myself will take
great pleasure in hearing
all the details of your journey
and your life and work in
Germany. I hope you will
find time to write us a long
letter occasionally. Not only are

am interested in you, but as
many people here inquire
about you and seem to feel such
pride in your success. In what
part of Germany do you expect
to make your longest stops.
We know almost nothing of your
plans.

With much love from us
all and many thanks for
the presents, I remain

Your affectionate sister,
Fannie Duggan

City Hospital,
Mobile, Ala
Jan'y. 7, '99.

Dear Father,

I have become somewhat irregular in my home letters of late, but believe I have sent nothing this week, and as it is not quite bedtime, will try to make out a letter. Since yesterday a good fire has been comfortable tho' this day has been beautiful outside. About ten o'clock yesterday morning quite a gale struck the city, doing considerable damage to property and to some of the shipping in the river, notably the Ste. Reed Oak, who lost both of her funnels and pilot house. Since then it has turned very

1/7/99

cold for these parts, and I am now sitting by a good fire in my old room at the City Hospital. Geo is complaining of a severe headache and has retired. I am staying clear these days and reviewing up for my examination which will probably begin the latter part of next week, believe there are three others to go up before the Board at the same time. At the same time I pick up useful bits of experience by being about the hospital, today Geo & I assisted Dr. Lamborn in an operation for the relief of cataract before the class of students. It was really the closest operation I ever saw "Mame Sissy" do. While

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only a 'boarder' in the house. I am treated by the doctors and the Sisters as if I belonged here at my old stand, and she is perfectly willing for me to make myself useful wherever I can. The new institution for the care of the sick is now about complete, and will be thrown open for inspection in a few days. I speak of the Inge Condemnt Infirmary. It is only about three blocks from here, and is an old dwelling modernized into a first class hospital. They are to have ward room for about a dozen patients and as many private rooms, together with a modern operating room &c. &c. I am directed to reside in the building.

I didn't get out to Aunt Alice as I expected the other evening, so can't give you any news from them. Spent a whole out at the Mingo's a few days ago and they are asked to be remunerated.

I saw Mr. H. H. Chapman of Marengo today and made an appointment to meet him and Mr. Jno. King on Monday. They seem to need a doctor in their neighborhood (W. H. H. - Catharine country) and think they can give me some inducements. For more than a year the Marengo delegation, wherever in the Custom House, has been insisting that I come up and give them a trial. It may not be a bad idea for a young man to do country work for a while, however, I will see what

they have to say, and when I
 come home could even go down
 and investigate for myself.
 While the profession in this
 town is crowded, I cannot help
 but believe that there will be
 a good opening for the right
 man in a few years.

Your letter came a few days
 ago and I was glad to hear
 the news of the neighborhood.
 Can't tell you whether or not Mr.
 Hinton Jones went on the hunt with
 the Governor.

The first news I had of the Folds
 selling out at Gellion was through
 Mr. Levy (of Ch. Levy & Co.), who said
 they were doing well and should
 stick to it.

By the way, Mother spoke of send-
 ing a little package down by

Ben Heard. I haven't heard of it,
but will inquire of Shawden's
store.

I hope you are making good
collections this cotton is low
and picking late. What are Ben-
den's plans for the new year?
I must say good-night. With
love to all

Y^{rs}
far off. Son,
Sleewey.

This is the only envelope I have convenient - so you must excuse it.

Gallion Ala. Jan 14th 1899-

My Dear Son:-

We have your letter - a short one, in which you tell us that you have an attack of 'Bronchitis' following Grippe. Well - I am not surprised that where it is so prevalent as it is in the Eastern cities, especially New York that you should have it - and the next thing is to keep you bed till every last symptom of it has vanished. The danger comes actually from exposure - from leaving you bed too soon. The system needs building up all the time, good nutrition & some medicine, here we have to fight against the climate so much as you have - we have less of 'Bronchitis' but more affections of the other organs - stomach &c. - I try & compel my patients to keep their bed - with occasional salt foot baths, hot - drinking hot milk &c. One of my chief remedies as a pain & nerve cure is Tinct. Gallesium combined with Tinct. Spleen - each 10 drops - to

20 to 30 minutes till the skin acts and
the ugly pains in the back & limbs are
gone - Keeping the bowels open with enemata
of warm water & Soda regularly - If there
is headache & pains severe I don't hesitate
to add Chloral 10 grs to the mixture and
after each dose advise a sip or two of
hot water, Sometimes when there is much
disturbance or slight pain about the chest
I recommend bats of cotton to the thickness of
four or six inches all around the upper
part of the body, keeping it fast to the
body with a bandage. This gives great rest
& relieves the cough in a measure. After
when there is a constant tickling & desire to
cough I will use Anna's Tinct. Opial. 20 to
30 drops in a little water & glycerine. and
specially to keep up the strength & well being
of the patient I give Strychnine Tablets in
the form of "arsenate of Strychnine" three to
four times a day - (Some of these I send
you inclosed so you can take them as you
wish). Remember the great thing is to keep
yourself comfortable & not expend your
energies or get up too early. Phenacetin
is often used with the Colloidal Tinct, 2 grains
of the Phenacetin every 3 to 4 hours.

2
Sincerely Yours Mother
was sent for today to go up
to accompany the Nurses

family & servants. She has
been a month for an illness
& very likely on leave mostly
has been exposed to it going
to see him before they
know what it was.

Ben has too. His Mother
has broken out with it on
the last day or two, both
she & John. Changes don't
seem to worry you have had
a good little time but
sincerely hope the worst is
passed now, with much
love from Mother.

11/14/99

followed by a drink or two of hot water.

The hot water makes it act so much quicker
& better & helps the medicine to reduce the fever.
gets it through the system so much faster. The
Phenacetin also gives a little sleep & quietude.
An old remedy of mine, which I have found
so good to relieve the cough of 'Bronchitis' is -
a teaspoonful of Turpentine Gts & a teaspoonful
of Comp^d Tinct Benzoin - added to a pitcher
or large cup of boiling water & this gently in=
haled & allowed to evaporate in the room.

Of course you will not take much purgative
medicine - for that weakens the system
over much - just enough laxative medicine
to give a more sweet, an easy stool, every
day - baked apples & prune juice is often
very acceptable & useful. Now when consti=
cious comes on I have found great good
to come from Liquid Peptonoids - a table spoon
of it in a little milk or water 4 or 5 times
daily - but if you have a Physician - he

This is a pretty longy - prescriptive?

else it pays to get the best. I wish I or my mother were near enough to watch over you - But Mr Benton is now with you, and don't mind asking for things that you may need. I expect to hear from you a little oftener since you are sick, Mr Benton can do the writing, I know he is obliging, & must keep me posted how you get along. The minutest God feelings - let me know - perhaps I may be able to allay, at any rate give me full descriptions of your feelings & condition at all times as I shall be anxious to hear from you.

There is nothing of importance to write you, the weather & roads have been 'horrible' - Today the sun is really hot & my feet have felt the effects of it when exposed. Yesterday & the day before a most disagreeable East wind prevailed. Ware is still with Dad & at the Station. Mr. Mace is in Mobile attending Jim Kornezoy's trial with the Marxs of Demopolis - "United States vs. J. Marx & J. B. Kornezoy" for using the mails in a swindling scheme. &c, it may go hard with them. It is said they pay Lawyers \$10,000 dollars to defend them. Hope to hear you are convalescent. With regards
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Jan 19th 1899.

I was truly glad to have your letter yesterday & to learn from it that you were up & out, feared you might be in bed some time, the weather was even on a convalescent. The climate must be almost as variable as ours but the houses are so comfortable I suppose one can't feel the cold changes as we do. The sun is shining today but there is a cutting west wind, anything is better than rain & much of which we have had our full share this winter. Your Father's prescriptions were too late to be of any use, but perhaps you will use the tonic tablets. The grip seems not to have reached us yet but small pox is scattered through the country, I have not heard from Hannah since Sunday but then Joe Reid, Mr Westbrook (clerk at Small's Ironstone) & Mr Bennett had it. Mary had visited Joe Reid before it was pronounced small pox so I think Mary must have the

disease. Reuben went to see him too but has
never been vaccinated. Mr Harris sent for John
Fathers to perform that service for his family on
Sunday, about 50 negroes presented themselves who
had quite a job. Mr H- left that evening for
Tuckahoe, Tony was a little sick he intended
bringing her home as soon as able to come. I don't
think she will return, they are not satisfied
with the way she is situated at D Little's,
climbs up stairs off from the family & whenever
is sick Mrs Little is unable to go up the steps to
see about her, they would not like to board her
she whines for fear of offending Mrs Little. I
would be glad to have her stay with us & go to
Miss Pickett but in bad weather there would be
no one to assist a nurse for her to assist or go for
her in case of a sudden rain, we have no man or
boy yet. I have a little girl to help me in the house.
I was much surprised Sunday to see Mrs Holman,
she came over dreadful cold to hear Mr Colby she
said, of course he was not down. Mr Smith sur-
veys over back roads to church & judges every one by
himself, telegraphed Mr Colby not to come. I

tried to keep Mrs G- to dinner but she said it
would take the rest of the day for her to get back
home.

I had a letter from Fred yesterday all went well,
it was Frederick's 5th birth day & he was enjoying
over an apple & some candy of which he was
allowed to enjoy pieces to eat. Fred was asked to
speak at the Live Stock breeders association to
meet in Meridian early in Feb, he declined on
account of the expense of the trip. I think he
should have accepted, the cost certainly would
not be much. I suppose he is saving all he
can to meet the payments on that place.

Levin was in the midst of his examinations,
all the work is done at night at the house
of one of the supervisors, the first night he
worked from 7 1/2 to 10 o'clock, written examining
had 10 in all to stand.

I will make the shirts with pleasure, don't forget
to send the length, no indeed you will not pay
for the goods I am only too glad to be able to
do something for you, will send the diplomas
with the shirts. I think outing will be better than

flannel it washes much better & is very warm,
that is what your Father uses.

Some time give us an idea of your plans, where
you expect to be in Germany, you said something
about travelling a good deal, do you intend going
from place to place, or what?

I feel as if this is a very startling letter I have been
interrupted so often, always in the day time
but can't try my eyes writing at night now.

The little way hyacinths are in full bloom &
make a pretty show in the front yard. Yesterday
we set out in the little ~~flower~~ garden a
bamboo, sent from Washington, I don't know
any thing about it but your Father says it is
rare. Mr Underwood sent it. I must run
over to see the old ladies this evening, Mrs Bond
& Mrs Menapham as good bye, with much love

Yours devoted

Mother.

Jan 25th 1899

My dear Son

Your letter this morning was very acceptable. You are such a traveller I was not surprised at the date. We are truly glad you are quite well again & enjoy your trip, a change is nearly always pleasant. At some times long for one myself, life in those parts has few charms, especially such as winter as we have had.

When your letter came ~~from~~ Father was about to leave for Lanesville to vaccinate those 60 cows that did not take, not one. He feeling very badly myself I insisted upon his going because this is a bright day, the sun really warm & no wind, such days must be taken advantage of. Of course the road is very sloppy, we had a tremendous snow right before last & oh, such a wind! I was very near getting up & deciding to be ready for anything that might happen. He, having heard Uncle Waver was not well rode up yesterday to see him, found

have lying before the fire in three chairs a pitiable looking object, has a large carbuncle on his leg, had been practicing the most remarkable treatment on it, which only aggravated the place & reduced his strength. If he could possibly get here we would have him come to stay until he is well, he needs good food for one thing, then the trip to Mobile put him all out of sorts. It is such a pity he will live as he does.

I think I am threatened with grippe, have a cold & cold shills running over me whenever I move, aching in my bones & a little fever last night but I was up to breakfast & feel better, will keep as close as I can for a day or two, my head aches & that accounts for this continuing letter, but perhaps you will rather have this than none. You forget to send length for your night shirt, let me know when you take it, just give the number of inches.

We had a letter from Lavin yesterday he had passed all his examinations but 2, was waiting on Dr. Ketchum for the questions, he wrote Mr. Kirkbride's little daughter (only child) was very ill, some one has been sick in that house ever since the fall.

Parson spent Saturday night & Sunday with us was out Saturday hunting birds, many of his left unexpectedly to him, he had six more left & a kind neighbor took two of them leaving him with only 4 more & 12 head of snakes. He will set out all the land he can & when game comes out, even his extra teams for ~~mowing~~ is still picking cotton. Uncle Bow has gone into the mule business, has sold 2 or 3 cow loads, anything to make a living I suppose, the Mrs. Whelan did think it terrible for "aunt Elvira's son to be driving mules".

They all think Mary Briggs will marry that worthy Lee man Lemuel Stoe, now that he is laid up with a broken leg she goes to see him every day. Old Lady Stoe is making her home with John & Rosa, he is the very one who made as much fun of Frederick's care of the old ladies, now in the same fix.

Waver still wakes for Bob, will continue until he finds a cheap man. I wonder he has not had grippe sleep on a cot in the store, the left is as ainy.

We are clearing up the hedge until you would hardly recognize the pigeon house lot, the whole lot

on this side of the big stable lot is gone & surely
all that on the strip as far as corner of the pigeon
house lot. I hope your Father will plow up the rods &
I want him to plant the ground in corn that the
cultivation may entirely exterminate the hedge, our
fowls need some fresh ground to pick over, so many
have died lately, three splendid goldens a turkey hen
& chicken hens. Aunt Ruth's undertook to collect for
the vaccination I was amused at the statement she
rendered, 'a cowden, 6 hens, 2 ducks 5 or 6 bushels of
corn & 75^{cts} in money' now the question is how to
get them home. If your Father were here he might
have some message but I will not keep this until
he comes, we have to send our letters to the store & trust
to any passer by to take them to Gallin, with much
love.

Yours devoted

Mother.

Feb 1st 1899.

My dear Son

Last night must have been the coldest of the year, for water froze on the beach in our corner, the sun has ^{today} quite many attempts to shine, but I fear the clouds will have the mastery, as a consequence the ground is still frozen & the frosts have thick ice on them, the same old programme will be repeated again in a few days, heavy snow, three white frosts & another rain & so on. No chance in the world to begin a garden, we did plant some peas but suppose they have rotted in the ground.

We were very glad to have your Sunday letter this morning. I expect you enjoyed the service, the good friends & their ardent music

there, with much love from devoted

as I reckon you like. I expect it would be too
ground for my old fashioned taste, you are fated
to be where you have such chances to enjoy
life, just think of the difference with us poor
mud turtles, & not the slightest chance of a
change, about 4 months since I have entered
a church & the probability is it may be three
months more but I must not complain Providence
has placed me here.

I was also ^{glad} to have an out line of your plans,
if 2 months of vacation come between each term
of study I think it will be very pleasant to
you & you will not get worked down. I thought
perhaps you would not spend the whole term for
study at one University. So I would find out
all I could from friends who have been over but
of course you will. I neglected to say your sister
giving me length of shirt some duty to hand.

FEB 11 '91

We had a letter from Lurie this morning, he
has only one examination ^{to stand} & seems worried
that Dr. Ketchum keeps him waiting so long, it
is hard to keep a man paying his board when
he is anxious to get through & be off, as he
can't get the examination he seems to be
making up for it socially, mentioned several
Cottillions as he expected to attend, they are
hurrying up their gaieties to be through by
Ash Wednesday. Berie says Lurie up in his
letters to me, for not visiting her often but
really I don't think she should expect it, her
number of friends is large, & he can't get around
often & attend to anything else besides, he helps
Gee a great deal while branding there, gaining
experience all the time.

All Fred's family had had grippa when

last heard from, six of them had fever but
were recovering. The Gov has not yet appoint-
ed trustees for Auburn so your Father's fate
is uncertain. I did think if he was reappointed,
& Harry invited me, I would go up with him,
perhaps I can afford to board for the week as
Mr Blunt has just sent me \$62.00, back
interest on \$125.00 he owes me. I am so glad
he sent it, I did not want to sell his house
for that little, still I could not afford to give
it to him. We have no news from Tammahall
hope there are no new cases of small pox.

You must excuse a short letter & a badly
written one too, I am not feeling well, nervous
too from quinine I took last night to keep
off fever, had some the night before. Lewis could
tell you what he did to prevent sea sickness, I will
get him to write when he comes. He was not sick at
all, I think he fortified himself against it. I must

after all I don't end get what I
want by example but
I hope you will find
these comfortable. I take
great pleasure in
writing them for you
with much love
Your devoted
Mother.

Feb 15th 1899.

It is so cold I will make a poor
hand writing, but it seems there is to be bitter
moderation in the weather. It is real. I these
weather, with our open houses & thin clothing we
feel it greatly. Saturday night the weather was
mild & we expected a snow but Sunday morning
when I looked out the whole face of the earth
was covered with snow & it was moving fast.
at the same time a fierce west wind was
blowing the snow about like dust or sand,
making drifts 2 feet deep, just to think of
that for Ala, the sun came out & we expect-
ed a thaw but there was not a particle of thawing
that night the thermometer was three degrees
below zero in the lower part of the stove when
there was a good fire in the stove, how low
it went during the night no one knows but
Monday morning at 8 o'clock I looked at our

thermometer on the frame of the front door & it was 1 degree below zero with the sun shining on it. Sunday, Monday, & yesterday we had a bright sun but no thawing, today there is a little thawing & it is very cloudy, I fear we will have snow soon. Fortunately we have a good supply of coal & can have good fires, but so many are suffering for fuel, the negroes around especially having made no provision for such a time. I have been so anxious to know how sister Sally & Mrs. B. manage & how Pauline gets on, we must have a business time one book or paper over to answer him.

John being a wages hand is at leisure this weather, as he comes up & feeds & does odd jobs but I could not persuade him to take a horse down for Wave. Sunday, he was afraid of the deep holes that were covered over with snow as we did not see Wave. Jeter told your Father Wave had gotten a place near Birmingham, what it is we will not know until we see him. I hope he will be up Sunday.

Your interesting & very acceptable letter came this

day after mine to you was mailed, and have a hard time getting the mail now.

I don't see how any of you keep your feet under you with such streets & high walks, I suppose Mrs. Benton can stand up now, is getting accustomed to such walking. I wonder how he likes the northern winter. I do hope all this dreadful weather will be over with, before you have to leave. So any friend or acquaintance going over at the same time with yourself? I ask how you will enjoy travelling in England, oh my! how much you will see!! We appreciate highly your wish to have us visit you before you leave, I would give anything to see you, but it will be impossible for us to go on at this season, even if we could make arrangements to leave home, & I don't see how we could do that. I trust you will return safe & well & when your finances have recuperated from the trip come run down to see us. You ought to get a big salary on your return I think. Lewis decided to remain for Mardi Gras, it is well he did & if he could get any thing to do I pray his board I would advise him to stay

arent good weather. He has been assisting
Dr. Good in some surgical cases but I suppose
that was for the experience. He wrote May Vango
was down, staying at cousin Williams, I am surprised
at that.

We have not heard from Fred in weeks, he
had planned for a cattle & swine show, talks
from some of the Professors &c. one yesterday but
I dont think they had it.

The snow is coming down steadily now so the snow
will soon be out of sight, but wont it be
terrible!! I expect to lose all my tomatoes &
some canned for it, fear the potatoes in the
bank are frozen. I pitched of water that was by
the chamber fire all this afternoon & night, froze
solidly, that gives you some idea of the cold, milk
couldnt be gotten out of pans with a hatchet,
chickens froze & dropped out of the trees. I will
soon have the shirts ready & will send diplomas
with them by express, wish you had the

Van Donala, Feb 15th 1799 *Chatham Middle*

Dear Ben -

I find myself alone { at supper & dinner }
shut up in my { at Columbus museum }
room for 10 days this winter, but not
from the fall off my Horse as last Dec^r
but from fall off snow & sleet & the
worse weather I ever saw in Ala
just such a shell as we had in Petersburg
the winter I went on & found Mother so
sick with Grippe, from which she really
never recovered completely. - Now
I have been going to & fro to Demopolis
during Dec^r & Jan^y & it got so cold I thought
as I had lost my Valet I ke, I had better
come to look after stock &c
I got old Si to feed & after the freeze
I was not well, could not run or ride
about. Sat night Mercury went down to
18° in my Hall - snowed all day
Sunday & bad as need be since as
I look out to day upon vast fields
of unmelting ice N & South - I have
lost 5 Cows & yearlings, & nearly all my

Nov 13 left out of 60 - Losses are
general - more or less suffering -
I thought like the prudent man I foresaw
the Evil & could avoid it but confess I
was caught napping - Left things
undone in Nov 27 I intended to do
I am thankful I had Corn in the City for Nov
& 1/2 Bar of Flour & meat & lard & plenty of
meat & some Eggs & butter & a bottle of Brandy
& with plenty of wood & 2 1/2 to cut I have
bridged over the Emergency so far
still I feel like I had been through a
war - all a Campaign (less able to my age
to stand this than I was. The march from
Centerville to Richmond or Yorktown to
"Darby town") Our roads have been impassable
nearly - for a month - great suffering among
the poor - the improvident. The negroes
In 27 we had curious feelings
because of the old Yellow fever dealings
Next year 28 brought still a stronger fate
An unexampled war with the Spanish State
But as a Record Breaker here comes 29
Mercury ^{on} zero on the Florida line
Warfare raging in the far Phillipine
Cuba a mendicant - Gomez defiant
Our Treasury strong and our Army pliant

Two Bachelor Crawls in his Blankets to him
and wishes the Sunshine would come out his form!!
I had a note from Bro Reuben & yr Mother
saying Wm took a run up to Birmingham
& they had a hard time caring for Stock
yr father also had toothache otherwise
all well - no news, no one stirring
I just make out to get my mail,
My same room gives some Comfort
& the tea kettle boils on the footman
on the grate - papers lie scattered. The table
always spread - I had killed last week
a Hog 130 lbs. so did not lack, but could
not get a Ham off to Mobile to Louis
for Mardi Gras - It was too cold for
Rex & Proteus &c &c low neck dresses -
decollette garments on floats - I did
not hear from Cousin Jimmie Garguet
could not have gone anyway, came back
from U S Dist Ct in Mobile in Jan sick
Mr Kornegay got clear of his Cases - I still
see some trouble in settling Mother's
Est - on two questions, one is that Piano
debt - 2 - Sale of Petersburg Property

I need a family Agreement for the
last - Cash for the first. I have
injured myself by trying to settle
the debts without selling property
I had to borrow or else press some
claim due the Est (but could not pay)
I began to think the Case Breake is played out
& is only a good Summer Home
no more profitable - All surplus has
to come from other sources - I have
about 10000 worth of Property in all
ought to have \$1200 income
have not had \$100 clear for 28
I ought to be able to give my
Nephews a \$50 occasionally
I hear you are going to Germany - wish I
could help you - if I had help, I could
help others. I spend but little - need
less - Good by & good luck to you -
write to Waver & give good advice
affectionately your Uncle
M. W. Duggan

your mother says - for perhaps she don't write so much. There will, too, of places in Paris at the United States dinner & good representatives will be in demand, perhaps you may like to have a place on some scientific board &c - talk with the prominent men at your University & see about it - for I should like for you to have every advantage accorded any other man & I know you will like any position you will take for. I am in earnest, as I think you should would like you some advantage & they may not yet have desired a position for any friend or applicant.

Yr affectionate note
 W. D. Hoagland

Gallum Ala. 15 Feb 1899 -

This morning I concluded I would write & give you notice that the "Arctic Regions" had moved down this way - never before as far South to my knowledge has the thermometer indicated 4 degrees below zero. Whilst I was upstairs attending to removing the inches of snow in the garret, your Mother anticipated me & I presume has told you how we have suffered. On Friday last we had a keen wind from the North as if it came from Iceland, then on Saturday the day took on the order of the night, dark portentous clouds hung around the horizon & towards night it became still cooler - progressively so till about 11 when folk it was so cold that I had to go to bed in self defense. It was as tho a blanket of sleet had fallen upon everything; By morning six inches of snow on a level & 18 inches in drifts - were to be seen over the face of the earth, & it reminded me of my College days in West Penn^a. & of Virginia when I was studying

a mere chap - only six yrs old - Father sold
out his Grocery & Tobacco business in Petersburg
& came to Ala - for I can still remember about
things in the old City, & who the boys were with
whom I played. Kiddie & Everett Meade and
Judge Gholson's family were on the same street
just a little ways above me on Ballingbrook St,
& 'twas there where I was born, in fact all of us
except for Aunt Alice & Uncle Hobart.

As I look out from our Summer Window
on the back Hall upstairs, there is the prettiest
view I ever saw in my life. The eye can reach
over 8 miles on a stretch towards Decatur - and
with the changing landscape of snow & clumps
of hedges & bushes, and the various little undu-
lations in the vast fields now so open & white
it looks really 20 miles distant. At night
we can see the halo of light from the electric
lights in Decatur 9 miles away to the west, &
can hear the boats puffing & their whistle are
quite distinct.

But about & around us we see the humpys
buzzards coming into the lot & pouncing upon the dead
chickens & fowl & this morning they were so near
furnished that they pursued one not nearly dead.
The sleet & snow has continued without abatement.

3)

The certainly will overcome any thing at this hour.

depth of two inches. The rain of this day will do no good as the wind is now howling from the North-west & we will have another hard night. If we save any food it will be a wonder the poor things can scarcely get about & some do not come down from the roost. A letter from Fred says they are all completely frozen up but keep up good fires & his ten (10) tons of Montross Coal is nearly gone with little prospect of more, as the Rail Roads are so busy. The Children keep well & even the old folks are not complaining. A letter from Mr Aunt Melville tells us that they have no coal & are depending entirely upon wood. At their house the thermometer registered 6 degrees below Zero - This is real Minnesota Weather - equal to the worst ever known south of Mason's & Dixon's Line. And how does Benton stand it, he may wish he was in his "den" at Uniontown - Thanks to Providence we have a very good supply of coal & I was fortunate enough as to have a man hired several days ago & cut up a lot of small wood & stored it away in the Staircase Closet for hard times.

We went to Birmingham & came back, but we have not seen him, hear from Mr Powell that he obtained a place - but nothing direct from him.

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

From 4:10 p.m. - That is the business of our business to keep them comfortable & if we do not do

from the 9th District will be glad to send them out. I think over this - it may last for
I don't know if you have any more vegetation. (Over to the north)
Plaster in this neighborhood say the other day
that he had just one day's work only on his new
years work for another cotton crop. Only one day's
plowing & January & Feb'y nearly gone - They will
not be able to bed their land for the next crop.
Another said he had 40 Bales of Cotton on hand
in the seed - & did not know ^{when} he would get it to the
gin. Everything is behind & stock is suffering
terribly. A Contractor on a Rail Road has 86 mules
& hands, feeding them & unable to do a lick of work,
has to feed them however till the season opens.

We are greatly obliged for the invitation to visit you,
but it is entirely out of our power, we can scarcely
keep ourselves comfortable here close by the fire - one
day I had my overcoat slung over my shoulders
altho I was in the house. Your Mother has to keep her shawl
on - tho by the fire - Our houses are not built for such ex-
treme seasons - this is the third (3rd) day we have been working
to get the snow from over our heads.

I took the liberty to write to Washington to have you
a letter for the Hon Andrew D. White - our Minister to Germany
& Cornell's former President - but suppose you'll get letters
from the Prof's to that end - you should do so by all means.
Take with you everything that will enhance yr pleasure or pro-
fit for yr trip - if you can think of any appointment or place in Paris
which you would wish - Genl Jas V. Morgan - our Senator &
Judge. Better and more than anything else. You should have a Representative

Marine College

Tulaski, Tenn.

Feb. 18, '99.

My dear Mr. Duggar:

Surely time
is not so much too early
to think of retiring, as having
fortified myself with a
lemon, still a school-girl
you see) and read your
very interesting (I mean it)
letter & I feel like talking.
If I say anything disagreeable
please attribute it to the
lemon.

I am very sorry, that you had to
pay so dearly for your impudences.
Bronchitis, I imagine, is not the
most agreeable luxury, one can
indulge in. But then you could
think, all this time of the waltz, and
not by trying hard to hear the music
too. It certainly is worth the time
to go abroad merely to hear grand
Opera. You will go to Bayreuth, of
course, and do you realize that you
will be there, for the Parsifal
Play, in Oberammergau, which is
given only once in ten years?
The music is magnificent, I have
heard it said.

You may also have the pleasure of
meeting some of the aristocrats, while
abroad. Carl Maury is studying in
Paris, and in June Isabelle Green,
expects to leave for Paris, with her
mother. When I think of this, I
have very unpleasant feelings, which
is very wrong of course. But never
mind, I'm coming some time before
the bridge is built.

The Greens expect, too, to make

ethaen their house. Isabella thinks
it such a good place to spend
vacations.

Have you been very cold this past
week: It was from -15° to -10° below
zero for six days, in Pulaski, and
not a lump of coal in the
market. So we tried coke in
the grate, with but poor success.
There was good sleighing &
fine coasting, this last I enjoyed.
altho' when I got home and
thought about it, the pleasure
scarcely balanced the risk.

2/18/99

we have moved into the
new building. The chapel
where I preside, is a fine
room, lighted with electricity,
and heated by hot air, that
is on those occasions when
the furnace will work.

There is a gallery at the
further end, where we
put the girls, when we
have entertainments.

My own room is on the
third floor, and has two
fine views, it is fixed up
very much like my old
Sage room, so I feel very

much at home, and long often to
be back among the hills of Ithaca.

We have had some interesting
meetings of our Book-club. Two
weeks ago we discussed the
Annexation of the Philippines, I was
on the affirmative, and naturally
think this side had the best argument.
However we had no judges, and
the debate was not decided.

To-day I read a paper on Alaska,
which was not good at all, as
there was no material available.

We are not quite out of the world,
simply a good way to look it.

You will be glad to know that
Mr. McKee is fully recovered and
since Jan. thirtyeth a happy benedict.
He has accepted a good position
in Philadelphia.

I have no gossip for you, at all.
A few days ago I met Mr. Fred
Erwin's father, at the station, where
we had time for a little chat. He
said Mr. Fred is in New York again,
and quite well. It is quite
surprising, Mr. Duggan. Last of course
Mr. Erwin was nice to me because

I knew you, and this year the
Mr. & Misses Rose have been nice
to me because I knew their
cousin Mr. Evans.

To show you what two years of a
boarding school can do for me, let
me tell you that Mr. Dodson intends
making me Lady Principal next year—
provided I will stay. Now don't you
think I should adopt a cap and
exchange my glasses for spectacles?
However I shall have to decline
this honor, altho' in that position
I would have a wider field for work.

Feb 22nd 1899

My dear Son

We are very glad to have your letter this evening, you did not say so but we presume you felt no ill effects from the terrible weather, you country folks can have a dance now & then no matter how the weather is, it would be dangerous to attempt party going in these parts. The weather for several days has been much warmer, we scarcely need fire during the day, but these heavy clouds all around today & the wind has gone to the north west as your Father has built up a fire. Yesterday he examined the fruit buds, all he tried were entirely dead, don't suppose we will have any fruit at all. I fear all the cobs are killed, won't that be dreadful!! No cobs for the hungry south. None was even my prettiest cob in the vegetable garden is dead to the roots, those day the porch were more protected & may not have suffered so severely, at any rate I suppose it will be well to cut them back a good deal, we

have not looked at the grapes but I expect they are all killed. Some times in June we had a little warm spell & some peas were planted, when the snow melted the peas popped up but I should at think they would be very vigorous especially if we have some cold weather.

Yesterday evening I sent your deplumes, 2 shirts & the pictures of our house. I begged your Father not to trouble you with that now you are so busy winding up your matters to leave, but he said he had promised you to do it. I don't suppose you would have cared if he had not done it, but he is as determined to do his own way, will pay for them if you will let him know the cost. As I wrote you the shirts are not the goods I wanted but I was afraid if I wanted to send back I would not get them made in time. They may be a little longer at first but will shrink.

Warr left us yesterday for Birmingham, Lewis brought the front wheels of his ox wagon to take his trunk down Warr did not know exactly what he would do. The Robinson Mining Co gave him the place of fire men on their engine, after he

retained, Gordon sent him a letter from the Minister ^{on Decatur} Mechanics, saying if Warr would go up he might give him a job, told Gordon to get him transportation from Birmingham to Decatur, Warr was going there & if he did not like the job would take the one at Pickens, but I don't think he can stand such work as that, it will ruin his eyes. I never hated to see any one go as badly as I did him, he is the last one. I looked forward with as much pleasure to having him with us Sunday, & all through the week we could hear from him, now there is nothing to look forward to, but you can't understand that.

We had a letter from Lewis yesterday, he is not decided yet as to what he will do. Dr Good has recommended him for Surgeons place at the Exporting Lumber mills near Wagon, on the M & B R.R. Now thinks if he gets that, other mills near by may employ him & altogether it would be a paying job. He had written to Holling to make some inquiries about Tuckalosa, Dr Mayfield in North post died a short time ago but he was an old physician too & did not have a large practice. If Lewis goes to Wagon

he will hardly make us a visit. Nothing from
Frank lately, or Remond either, Aunt Phillips wrote he
had recovered.

Uncle Waver could not get up yet, Waver went to see
him yesterday, rode up the rail road track nearly
all the way. Uncle Waver lost only 5 head of stock,
but away he I told you. We hear of cattle that freeze
to death in stables, don't know how those out-
sides could stand it. Your Father intended asking
a few lines but decided to walk up to see Willie
Barnes, says 1/2 doz copies of the pictures will do.
I enclose Mrs Barneswoods letter.

I am glad the steamer you are going on has proved
himself as new worthy. I must hurry to a close & try
to get this off tonight, with much love from us both

Your devoted

Mother.

Our kindest regards to Mrs Brewster.

Feb. 23 - 1899

My dear Mr. Duggan:

Why I did
not finish my chat with
you I know not. Other
callers, probably interrupted
our little talk.

How important it is for
me to write in this mood
for if it be contagious you
will be sleeping peacefully
before you have read another
line. Last night the
Vanderbilt Elms gave a
concert after which we
entertained them at the college.

and we finally succeeded in getting
the bags off in time to catch the
early morning train. Two o'clock seems
late to me now. The singing really
was not very good, but we enjoyed
very much a violin solo rendered by
the director of the club, he is a musician
of Nashville and plays very well indeed.
There was a cello solo too, which I liked
very much.

I expected to be extremely bored at
the reception, as I was simply attending
in order to make the girls and
boys have a good time. I was surprised
however to find that I was at the
same time amusing myself. I
met two men whom I had met
before and knew, indirectly, the
Nashville violinist is a friend of mine
and a German so we enjoyed a chat.
But the most fun was gaining him.
The violinist, a clear field and an
opportunity to see something of his
financier who is our vocalist. This was
no easy task as she is very pretty
and popular. However I was repaid
for my labors, with the unfeigned
gratitude of two happy people.

Yesterday I heard very indirectly. &

that our friend Mr. Durand is engaged
to a certain Miss Perry. Is this news
to you? If opportunity offers please
give Mr. Shanty my blessings.

I hear to-day that the uninvited town
girl, explained this seeming slight. That
there were a whole lot of old-maid
teachers up at the college, who want to get
married. To ~~be~~ called old-maids
simply adds to our dignity, but that
we should want to marry and evidently
cannot! What a sad state of affairs.

Please let me know when you expect
to leave the land of your youth, that
I may bid the winds be still, wishing
you all the best.

Yours and ever
after affectionate friend

I remain,
sincerely yours,
Anna C. Agnew.

know how she is. I know of no ones about here, except the farmers are taking advantage of the
 season. I mean how such
 ready as we had Saturday
 night & Sunday, & a number
 of the men staid for 24 hours
 the whole of the night
 was covered with water.
 It is time for linen to
 to the depot as I want
 clear, with much less
 than I want.
 Mother
 Let me know how the
 pay is.
 1899

Your very acceptable letter came
 while we were at dinner & I hurry to write this
 evening because I have a bundle to send & want
 to tell you about it. I am so glad you liked the
 shirts but perhaps the "pajamas" will suit
 best for the new voyage. When I asked Bessie
 to select the outfit for me I told her I wanted
 it to make you some night shirts, she said
 "why not make pajamas?" I did not reply to
 that but made the shirts as I did not know
 whether you would like pajamas. She sent by
 Service the bundle I sent you, pajamas. It
 was very kind of her, she also sent the
 pattern if I wanted to make others. Service
 says they will be nice for the voyage.
 How arrived yesterday evening, rode up on a
 wagon with lumber, brought trunk & all, we
 could get no one to take the horse down until

arrived as he came on the first conveyance
passing, he is looking well, will go down to the
train this evening for his bird dog, came off
respectably & it was in the country.
I am sorry the weather was so disagreeable while
you were in Albany & that you could not visit
the Capitol during assembly meeting. We would
like to have had the paper if you could have
secured it. Your Father thinks the peaches are
not all killed. I was rejoiced to find the
sweet potatoes had not rotted in the bank,
being desperate for some vegetable besides rice.
I saw & my self opened the bank this morning.
I did not mean to heart you Bess by saying
you could not understand my feelings, gentlemen
brusily even feel about such things as ladies do.
Of course I don't expect any of the boys to live
here with us, there is nothing they can do, I
only expressed my lonely feeling with all of them
off. Waver has written one card since he left,
yesterday week, he went to Decatur but there
was no place for him there now, so he expected
to take the firm's place offered him at

Ishkooda. I addressed my letter to that place,
since Robinson Mining Co. had not yet given his
address.

Louise sends love & says he will write to you soon,
he is waiting to hear from the Exporting lumber Co.
says he may not hear for several weeks, the head
man said he would employ any one recommended
by Dr. Gooder, he recommended Louise. That place
should pay well, is only 60 miles from Mobile,
& from Wagon, a station on the M & B.

I had letters from aunts Bessie & Melville, yesterday,
aunt M. enclosed a note from Lucy to her, telling
of what a time she had all that bad weather.
She had given up her room to a lady & gone into
Otey's room without a fire place, had taken violent
cold & was sick enough to be in bed but had
to keep up because Bessie was off selling apples,
way down in South Bruns, caught there during
the snow. Sunday morning, snow 6 inches deep
her crippled cook could not come so she went to
work to get breakfast for 18 boarders, everything
was frozen & the brimst dough froze while she
was making it up, she suffered terribly but

managed to get breakfast by 10 o'clock, then she
had to wait on the table, cook the dinner & all.
For two days she had the same thing to do, then
her cook sent her word to send a horse for her &
he would come, she was glad enough to do it. I
wonder the expense did not kill her. She has
2 northern ladies boarding with her. She has
learned by experience, & now has a folding bed for
her own use in the sitting room. Her nieces
are all at home, Bailey springs line having
suspended. Olmsted has moved to the Boddie
Place to be near her school, is much interested
in keeping house for Thos & it is good for him to
have her there.

Your Father leaves it to your judgement about
the pictures, from that age to half, if you
think best, let him know the expense & he will
send P.O.O. Mrs Joe Collins went to Birmingham
Saturday night to nurse Jim Robins's little
girl who was ill with pneumonia, I have not

Spring H. Ala.
Mich. 2nd 99.

Dear Mother;

Your letter was received a few days ago - I should have thought my card would have reached you soon - than it did - I think it was written Saturday or Sunday and should have reached you Monday. Yesterday was a repetition of a week ago - beginning with a sprinkle and finally ending in a down-pour continuing for nearly the hour. I don't suppose Miss Lane could tell you anything of me for I have not seen her since the night of my return home - so I tried to find Charlie once or twice - but failed each time.

I don't remember whether I told you of my trip to Decatur in my card - Gordon secured me a pass on the L. & R. I left on the mid-day train arriving in time to see the Master-Mechanic of the L. & R. shops and then make a partial trip around the shops before it was time to quit.

work for the shops are closed when the workmen leave.

I did not have much faith in the ship except to see the Master-Mechanic and show myself for as you know he wrote particularly as to my age and size - I think I could fill the bill in size & he did not ask my age.

He could promise me nothing at present he said - tho' to tell the truth I did not much care to accept a place then when I knew I could get the place when.

I came here none too soon for on the first a young man came here inquiring for work the same having first for Mr. Hardy two years ago on his run in Georgia - I am sure this man would have gotten the job for Mr. Hardy, told me he expected to ask for a white firman before long.

Don't Lucy seem to have troubles of her own tho' she is always cheerful.

While I think of it tell Lewis to have the shoes taken off Annie for they have been on entirely too long I tried to get Frank to change them before I left but could not - he was too busy!

MAY 5, 99

There is now no need of a pair of rubber shoes until next winter so Mr. Chosberg can keep them.

That is just it I'll bet Father told Bob to keep the box waiting until until he could send the shoes, when I wrote to ship the box at once if not sooner for I needed the clothes to wear. Father might have known I did not need the rubber - no one ever heard of a person wearing rubber standing on coal or iron all day except when walking up the track - don't need rubber on the mountain.

I don't know of anything I left besides what you mentioned - please try to have the box sent at once rather go without some things I don't need for a year than have the things I want detained.

I am sleeping in the commissary at Smythe which is just a mile from Ishkooda where I get my meals when passing on the engine - in the evening I walk down the mountain or hill as it is called here

get my supper and then walk back to my tent,
can't get my meals here or get the help to.
The spur track that runs up to the mine
begins here so whenever the engine goes up the
mountain it is obliged to come here.
Our daily work is to take out the loaded cars for ore
and replace with empties four times a day
while then to four trains of cars have to be
carried to Oxmore T. C. & A. R. Co. furnace which is
no easy run tho it is less than five miles still
the grades are steep - we follow the main line
of L. & N. track from near Oak Knobs to near Oxmore
then there is the one bad bridge to cross - being on
a level with L. & N. until very near this bridge then
there is the pull and a good stiff one at that.
I was pretty tired for the first day or so but
now I am getting used to this work ~~and~~ I must
~~close off~~ it is time to go to dinner.

Yours affly,
W. J. Miller

P.M. MAR 19/99

Dear Mr. Draxer -

I have got to leave
here at 5.30 Sat. P.M.
as my eyes have com-
pletely given out. I
shall take my exam-
when I return. I am
so sorry not to be
able to say "good-bye"
but can write you.
I hope you may

Don't

get sea-sick -

show it, if you do -

work hard -

fall in love -

get a foreign domestic -

forget your old

friends -

forget to get your

mail at Seikais

Excuse this hasty scrawl

but I can't see straight

Very Sincerely

Sage -

Mar. 17 '99.

Estelle (A. Seach)

have a most fortunate
voyage and trip -

that everything will

smile on you (except

the Franklin) and

that you may re-

turn into an office

of full Professors.

Remember my invita-

tion to stop in Dion

a year from June.

P.S. Let me have full monopoly
as fool-inspirer.

E.

Tuesday March 14th 1899.

My dear Son

Through a note from Uncle Wm we hear you will sail on the 22nd, as not knowing when you will leave I thought I had better hurry up with my letter that you may have it before you leave. Uncle Wm seemed pleased at having your letter. He left England Thursday, having spent a week, in which time he improved very much in strength & spirits, when he first came he talked as if he felt himself going down rapidly. I am sorry to see signs of old age in him, but I suppose it is true, he must be about 64 years old probably 65 next birth day.

I suppose about this time you are over seas with work, but I hope you can get through with it all satisfactorily to yourself. I know packing away books & papers is no small job. I wrote to Beebe & thanked him for the program.

for you, as well as myself. Was Kirkbride's
cotton died after all, but I reckon Lurie gives
you the Verobles news.

This is a real April day, sunshine & clouds,
I hope the sun will prevail for we need good
weather, I hope it is as pleasant with you.

Last week we had some good sunny days,
the ground dried off & roads improved
rapidly, but Sunday night there was an all
night rain which put every thing back to
where it was before. If we could have had our
gardens planted Saturday it would have been
the very thing, but we could find no one to
do it, folks are scarce every year.

I hoped to have had Reuben with me Sunday
but he did not come, I hope he was not
sick again. Lurie spent Thursday at aunt
Verobles & that day Reuben was well enough
to ride over to the place to weigh some
cotton, picked while he was sick. You have
no idea how much cotton there is yet to be
ginned in the country.

We had a letter from Dad last night, he

was about to leave for Brewster, to see about
experiments with cocoa & cotton, expected to
stop on his return at his farm to have
Ornithotus sown. He asked Lurie to make
him a visit while at home, proposed my
going with him but I will wait to hear
something from Fanny, if she does not write
me I stay at home. They are poorly fixed for
entertaining company, only one spare room
furnished, all hands were quite well.

As you will hardly hear from Wane I will
enclose the only letter I have received from him
it may interest you. He has chosen a very hard
life I think, to my notions driving around selling
wine, would have been much easier & equally
as profitable if he had worked at it.

I was surprised Sunday evening to see Mrs
Katch drive up in a buggy, one hour away back
I rode with her as far as the 9 acre lot, the
oats Ed Scott planted there on shares are doing
well, will help us out with feed next summer.
But for Mrs Katch's visit Lurie & myself would
have walked up to see Mrs Joe Collins, she

returned from Birmingham Saturday night. Jim's
little girl was up.

We hope our Sabbath with friends Sunday for I have
not been to church in 4 or 5 months.

Lewis has spaded up my flower beds nicely, &
intend planting a good many annuals to
make up for the lack of roses. Naming glories
Hollyhocks &c. we will have to take the place
of my pet Massachusetts Mail, a poor substitute
I think. Your Father has gone to the depot or I
suppose would have some message, & now I
must close wishing you all the pleasure & enjoy-
ment you anticipate in your trip, my ^{heart} will
ever be with you, with much love & my earnest
prayers that God will bless you & bring you
safe to your destination, ever

Your devoted

Mother.

Gallatin Ala
Mch. 24, 1899.

Dear Ben,

Mother is writing fairly I presume, so I will only add a short letter to her already well filled envelope. I have been at home two weeks today and after an eighteen months absence I find little material change in the home premises except that wrought by the gradual process of decay. Have left for Bham a few days before I arrived, so I succeeded him as lot boy and hostler, think there has been no man employed on the lot for some time, except the one who comes on Sunday.

As I don't understand the end to which Father expects to run this place, I shall make a determined effort to get him to leave here before another winter, such as the last, tho' cautiously, with little hope.

Before leaving Mobile I stood and
Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

the State Board and in that way have
straightened out myself with the
profession.

I am now offered a position as sur-
geon for the Creelman Lumber Co's in-
terests in the Tombigbee River near
Mobile, which position will be open
not before the middle of April. They
have a large hardwood mill in oper-
ation and two others in construction,
and as they will work a large number
of hands and expect many accidents
they wish the services of a physician
close at hand. There is no understand-
ing yet as to remuneration, but I think
this will depend principally on the num-
ber of laborers employed. While waiting
developments along this line I am investigating
prospects at such places as Saintsville,
Decatur, and Tuscaloosa.

I believe this is expected to reach you before
you leave on your trip, so I hope you will
have a pleasant and safe voyage, and that
your itinerary of Europe will be enjoyable
and profitable. Mother joins me in love,
Yours aff. Bro.

Wallion Ala. - Feb 17th 1899 -
Dear Ben: -

We had considered your first proposition - or expectation that you would leave New York City on the 25th - hence we shd have plenty time to write. and I had intended to forward you five dollars to cover any expenses in fixing the "House Pictures". I sent this letter under cover of one to Mr Benton, so if you are still at Ithaca when it reaches you - then so well & good - otherwise he can forward to you. There is a remedy for fatigue & nervousness which I like to use & it is really good - "Keasbey & Matheson's" "Bromo-Caffine (Caffine)" - which if taken by dessert spoonful in a half tumbler of water & drunk whilst effervescent it will be a great benefit - even to one sea-sick. The "Bromo-Caffine" is an effervescent salt.

I have heard of its being one of the essentials
to an ocean trip. The effervescent qualities
will tend to settle the stomach & besides it
is a soothing remedy when taken in such
doses - ($\frac{1}{2}$ dessert spoon of ^{the} salt to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cool water)
But I suppose your local Physician will
supply you with full directions for all &
every emergency. With your usual prudence
& care as to your diet &c I am sure you
will fare well, and after ^{often} a sea voyage
a person's health is better than ever before.

We shall all anxiously await the
arrival of a "telegram" or "Cablegram" from
you on arrival - and we shall prayerfully
wish you a pleasant & safe & even enjoyable
trip over to the Country or Empire of
Professors. For I have always looked upon the
Huron Empire as a Country chiefly composed
of Teachers - Military men & Musicians.
I know your prudence & knowledge of the world
will guide you safely - just try & keep your health
above every thing - for knowledge is powerless without
a good share of health to make useful
efforts - & you shall always have our blessing.

Your Affectionate Father -

J. H. Duggar M.D.

know from you or not. I suppose it will be there or gone weeks before, a letter
will reach us. Now
Father intends to add to
my letter, with much
love & saying that God
will bring you safely
into port as ever.
How devoted
Brother.
P. S. We can think
of no better thing
as at 17 to ensure
himself with long
sleeves to go if on
the train, & wonder

Coming to the wreck out caused
by heavy rains. Several of the trains not connecting
your letter did not reach us until last night.
we were very glad to have it, and very sorry you
have been unwell again but hope by this time
that each has disappeared & you are feeling
better. The nervous strain upon you must have
been very great & probably caused the trouble.
On the voyage you will have a good time to
rest, but I was thinking you would miss
exercise. Lewis says one feels like doing
nothing at all but reading a little &
watching the water, he spent most of his
time on the "bridge" looking over the water
but I should think it would soon become

monotonous, however I have had one experience
& hope I never will, hard work do for me
to travel but I don't think there is any
danger of my having much of that travel.
I suppose today or tomorrow you will receive
my Tuesday letter & this you will receive
on the steamer if it reaches Pt G in
time. I do hope you will not suffer from sea
sickness. We will all think as much of you
& will be truly thankful for a cablegram
announcing your safe arrival at Antwerp.
it is very kind & thoughtful of you to say
you will send it. Could not you on the
voyage write a kind of journal letter to
be mailed on arrival?

I am glad to hear of the letter with address,
also the introductory letter to the chief
consul. Why did not you tell us some of
the nice things said by Prof Bailey &

others about your return to Cornell. I like
to hear all the nice & pleasant things
about "our boys", would not think you
convinced or egotistical if you related every
thing of the kind said to you, no mother
could think more of her sons than I do, still
I like to hear the good opinions of others.

This is a very cool spring day, fire is comforting.
Laura is in the arm chair reading medicines
& your Father having secured Lewis' services
is putting in some seed in the garden,
hopes to get in some Irish potatoes too, as
one, or rather very few have planted yet.
Mr Powell only yesterday & he is usually the
'early bird' around here.

We saw by the papers there was a tornado
about Birmingham, Wood County, Arkansas,
had a good many cottages blown down,
Ishkooda was not mentioned. The letter

Your Father says he
 will send him
 letter to New Boston
 I prefer to do as you
 direct & send to
 the steamer.

from Wave this week I am sorry to say.
 perhaps he spent Sunday in Dining Room & I
 can well imagine he is too tired at night
 to do any thing but rest.

I began my search yesterday for turkey nests
 found two with 2 eggs each as my spring
 labors have begun, for sowing. This
 morning I saw a few blossoms in the top of
 the large *Scorpius* fern tree, we watched with
 eagerness for each sight these days.

Uncle Wave left us yesterday having spent
 2 days & nights with us, he is still
 improving in strength. There is no sun, I
 fear my letter is dull & disconnected, have
 been interrupted as often. I will do as you
 requested, write once a week, whether I

if there will be some of my kind on the steamer

P.M. MAR 21, 1899

Dear Suggs:

Unchained bird
letter from your father.
Next morning after your
departure, and nothing
has accrued, to my
knowledge.

I know shall miss
your pleasant "drop ins"
more than you least
any idea I will, you
will have to accustom
myself to the inevitable
circumstances. When Spring
opens up I shall be out
hustling most of the
time. So it won't make
much difference whether
I get sufficiently inti-
mate with any of these
fellows to "do them" or not.

Hope you have been able
to move around on board
your "floating house" at
will, and have missed
the sea-sickness.

I wish you a pleasant
trip across, and in all
a pleasant and profitable
sojourn in foreign
parts but don't get a
"foreign domestic".

What do you think I
was up and aroused this
morn. by 7.30 o'clock. It
looks unreasonable, but
nevertheless a fact.

May success, peace and
plenty ever attend you,
Your sincere friend
N. Benton.

March 24th 1897.

My dear Son

It has been a week today since my last letter to you as you request it I will write at the regular time & if ^{the letter} ~~it~~ arrives at Leipzig before you do I hope it will be kept for you, probably today you received the last weeks letter addressed to the care of Percival Sturges Huntington &c.

Your very acceptable letter of the 19th reached us on Tuesday & your postal came this morning. I am very glad the day you sailed was not a bad one, with us it ^{was} a beautiful day, only a little windy & I wondered how it was in N.Y. With all your wraps you should keep warm on the voyage, I try to picture to myself how every thing looks but of course I am far short of the mark as I have never seen a large passenger steamer. I hope your Dr acquaintance will prove a pleasant one & that you will make other friends, no doubt you will.

I am not surprised at your leaving some mounds for your friends, it is a great undertaking for a man with your possessions (books, specimens &c I mean) to arrange every thing for a year's absence, specially when some one else is to occupy his room & office. So many invitations out from friends must have been very gratifying to you, but consumed much of your time, however you did get through with your work & had the additional pleasure of being with your friends just before leaving. I reckon Mrs Benton will miss you very much. I wonder if you received the letter your Father mailed to Athens last Friday, no, I reckon not or you would have mentioned on the card. It contained \$5.00 to pay for the postal also a note to Mrs Benton, the outer envelope was addressed to him. I must try & go back & tell you what our departure was like, I hope you will be home in a week.

again & cold change. Mr. Goble came down Saturday, dropped in here just as dinner was over, of course I fixed him up some which he seemed to enjoy after the long rough ride home back. He spent the night at Mr. Smith's of course they told him no one would be at church after so much snow as he put out early for home, wishing to work before the creek rose too high, we did not know that, until sunday. Linn & myself were all dressed & ready to go over to church, as soon as the doors were opened, several messengers were sent over to see if any one was there, but no one came & we were quite disappointed. Benben did not come down either as we were disappointed all around. Uncle Waver must have gone to town, or he might have been afraid of the wind too & did not come.

Part of this week your Father & Linn were much interested in a case of lockjaw, one day your Father made her two visits, & Linn one. Kate Shearer which a visit saw her foot, in about six days she began to suffer very much, & it was then your Father was called in, she had a terrible case, the worse your Father ever saw, they did every thing they could for her but she died in the greatest agony yesterday morning, the only relief she had when the spells ^{of pain} came on was the use of chloroform. It is a dreadful disease, no cure - I am really grieved about Kate's death, she was a good woman & there are as few these days, she left 5 children.

Bob Collins has been quite sick one of his attacks from over eating, since moving to the Tucke house he has dropped your Father, has Dr. Parker, he could not relieve him as he asked for Dr. Goodloe to consult with him, they decided it was appendicitis, but yesterday I heard Bob was much better & expected to be out in a day or so, don't know what they say now.

Sunday - Having no church Anniversary & not having been to church for months I lost the run of the Sunday, was under the impression that today was Easter, thinking as I tried very hard to arrange to attend services at St. Andrew's church, but of course no service was held, and I did not attempt

MAR 24 1899

to drive a buggy to Gathorn, too many dreadful holes, so then we made
slogging about the carriage road to Faunce dale, heard it was terribly rough
but thought we would try it any way. Last night I found out my mistake
& we decided to wait another week, go next Sunday which surely will be
Easter. You will hardly be at Antwerp by that time. If the weather on the
ocean has been such as we have had, I think you have had rather a
calm time, there is very little wind, last night we thought the westerly storm
was gathering but the clouds passed off. We had two men part of yesterday
at work in the garden, ground prepared, & some little peach trees set out.
Lavin has been tunnelling up the large ones. More pear blossoms than I had any
idea of -

From Bulletin & Parnis letters came, I read the letters, tho' I am not a
farmer, learned a good deal from them. I had a note from aunt Portville
last night all were well except Lucy she is always complaining. The said
Reuben was caught in last Saturday's storm returning from Faunce dale, went
to pay off his cotton pickers, he is through now, is not at green, cotton picking
the last of March. I wish Reuben would come down today. There is nothing
specially interesting to write, perhaps your father will fill the blank page.
Mabel John is one of the delegates to the constitutional convention, New Buck Barber
tried to be, but was left a long way behind in the race. Please excuse the
many mistakes I don't know what is the matter with me - with much love from us all

Dear Ben - I can't let this blank page go
without writing a little - I feel satisfied your
Mother has told you all the "news going" - Today
I am suffering with my index finger of right
hand, so much so I can scarcely hold the
pen; as I was yesterday repairing some fences
on the lot, the hammer slipped & bruised this finger
very badly, & with all my attention to it,
the pain & throbbing is yet severe. This has been
quite a spring like day & our winter clothes
are oppressive, thought surely Reuben would
come up to spend Sunday with me - For the
last four or five Sundays we have had rains
or thunder storms. Every day we think of you and
wonder what you might be doing & how far onward
your ship has travelled. Amongst the strangers
or often thrown together in a long sea voyage, often
good friendships or pleasant acquaintances are
made. Your Cousin Turner's son Turner, (who is Dr. Vaughan
of Hot Springs now - as he settled there when married) is at the
time at Heidelberg studying I believe, or he may be at
some other Univ: so if you hear of him you'll know whence he comes.
Gr. uncle Ware was well enough to go into Memphis when last heard from.
Llewellyn proposes to go up to Auburn soon & look around, paying first
a visit, he hasn't seen Fanny or the nephews & nieces at all, only saw Fanny
when she was married. Gr. card came safe. All gr. friends are well.
at

with 1899

Mon-père d'avoir fait voter
Carnegie je vous salue
Cher Monsieur, avec une bonne
tracée bonheur et prospérité
dans le coup de votre carrière.

Avec respect de vous de la
votre tout dévoué

St. Charpentier

Cher Monsieur
Je joins ma lettre à
celle de mon mari et
vous désire tout le bonheur
que vous pouvez souhaiter
Espérant que vous empor-
tez un bon souvenir de
la France et de la
maison, nous serons très
très heureux de vous
voir revenir
A. B. Serpente

Cher Monsieur
Je joins ma lettre à
celle de mon mari et
vous désire tout le bonheur
que vous pouvez souhaiter
Espérant que vous empor-
tez un bon souvenir de
la France et de la
maison, nous serons très
très heureux de vous
voir revenir
A. B. Serpente

Les trois sœurs Charpentier
souhaitent à Monsieur
Lugger un très bon
voyage et espèrent qu'il
reviendra d'ailleurs avec
elles bientôt. Elles lui
disent beaucoup de
plaisir en Amérique et
des omnibus qui
marchent plus vite
que ceux de Paris.

M. L.

65-1941-4

Lillie sealed up before
the Charkentier's contribution
arrived. This accounts for this not
fit in envelope. I read it so I can
make it out. Take my word for it
that it is very fine.